

Docket No: 740819-1052

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Yoshihisa NAGANO et al.)
Application No. 10/829,476) Art Unit: 2826
Filed: April 2, 2004) Confirmation No. 5876
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND)
METHOD OF FABRICATING THE SAME) Date: August 11, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street, South
Customer Window, Mail Stop Missing Parts
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. In accordance with the PTO notice dated July 11, 2003, waiving the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting copies of each cited U.S. Patent, for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003, no copies of U.S. Patents are enclosed. However, copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature are submitted under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing of this application or entry into the national stage of this application, or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or certification is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

The undersigned certifies that either (1) each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in connection with a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this statement, or (2) no item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and to my knowledge after making reasonable

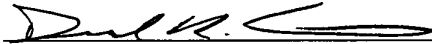
inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Patent Number	10/829,476
				Filing Date	April 22, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Yoshihisa NAGANO et al.
				Art Unit	2826
				Confirmation No.	5876
				Attorney Docket Number	740819-1052
Sheet	1	of	1		

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 06-037280		02/10/1994	Ozaki et al.		Abstract
		JP 07-094600		04/07/1995	Kashiwaba et al.		Abstract
		JP 06-085193		03/25/1994	Sakao et al.		Abstract
		JP 10-340871		12/22/1998	Nakamura		Abstract
		JP 06-177347		06/24/1994	Imai et al.		Abstract
		JP 11-008355		01/12/1999	Tanabe		Abstract
		JP 11-126881		05/11/1999	Kushida et al.		Abstract
		JP 11-068041		03/09/1999	Matsuki		Abstract

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		European Search report dated October 21, 2003	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.